Narrabri Mine Community Consultative Committee Meeting #72

Date: Wednesday 11th March 2026

Time: 4:00pm

Location: Narrabri Coal Operations Boardroom

Meeting Commenced at 4:00pm

1. PRESENT AND APOLOGIES

Present: Russell Stewart (RS)

Peter Webb (PW)

James Stieger (JS)

Mark Foster (MF)

Geoff Hunter (GH)

Bruce Danson (BD)

Alan Grumley (AG)

David Ellwood (DE) – Whitehaven Coal

Brent Baker (BB) – Whitehaven Coal

Ben Simpson (BS) – Whitehaven Coal

Harriet Davies (HD) – Whitehaven Coal

Neville Paxton (NP) – Whitehaven Coal

Jabin De Keizer (JDK) – Whitehaven Coal

Grant Case (GC) – Whitehaven Coal

Apologies:

Cr Ryan Whillas – Narrabri Shire Council

2. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

No declarations.

No changes from previous.

3. PREVIOUS MINUTES

RS asked if everyone had read previous minutes.

RS asked for previous minutes to be accepted as a true and accurate record.

Moved: JS Seconded: MF

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Nil.

5. OPERATIONS AND SAFETY REPORT

- BS read out the operations and safety report

Production

- Coal production sits at approximately 4 million tonnes.
- There is a target of 6.2 million tonnes total production before the next longwall move.

Safety Performance

- There have been 6 reportable injuries year to date.
- DE explained that a reportable injury includes any injury requiring medical treatment, such as stitches, medical glue, prescribed medication, or similar minor treatment.
- It was noted that this represents a significant decrease from last year.
- This is a decrease in numbers from last year and this has been attributed to improvements and investments in the underground workings which include, but are not limited to; improved safety standards, concreating of underground roadways, better lighting and job rotation of employees. Good standards = good safety.

Operations

- MF asked whether there were any outages or major services planned in the coming months.
- DE advised that there is one planned five-day outage scheduled to change out the cylinder legs of the longwall.
- Other than this, only general maintenance is planned until the longwall move scheduled for October–November 2026.

Surface Infrastructure Works

- BB and DE mentioned several major surface infrastructure projects currently underway on site.
- Construction of a new ventilation shaft in the south-east corner of the mine is progressing, with infrastructure being delivered to site.
- DE explained that the first 9 metres of the shaft are currently being drilled, referred to as the “pre-sink” stage.
- This pre sink work is expected to be completed within the next month, after which drilling will continue to sink the shaft to its full depth of approximately 200 metres.

Powerline Construction

- BB advised that construction of a new powerline from the pit-top area to the eastern shaft will commence shortly.
- DE commented that all clearing of the powerline corridor has already been completed, and work will begin to drill holes for the power poles.
- The substations and ventilation fans have already been delivered to site.
- Once the shaft has been fully sunk (estimated timeframe of approximately 12 months), construction of the ventilation fan infrastructure will commence, currently targeted for January 2027.
- JS asked if it is NCO who are constructing and working on the powerlines at Bow Hills. DE confirmed this is not NCO.

6. ENVIRONMENTAL MONTORING REPORT

- Each member of the CCC meeting is provided the environmental monitoring report two weeks in advance
- RS asked if there were any questions about the report? There were no questions about the monitoring report.

7. WHC COMMUNITY UPDATE

- JDK discussed community investment activities for the reporting quarter.
- A total of $96,609 was provided in community partnerships and donations during Q4 (September 2025 – December 2025)
- Narrabri was the largest beneficiary of funding during this quarter
- It was explained that the application for grants and donations requires individuals or community groups to apply to Whitehaven Coal, outlining the purpose of the funding request and the amount of funding sought for the proposed project improvement or purchase.

Modification (MOD) 2

- DE discussed MOD 2 of the Stage 3 Project.
- This MOD proposes to extend the cut and flit (CF) mining area. A map of the proposed extension area was displayed to the CCC.
- The current CF operations are expected to end around 2029, and the MOD 2 proposal seeks to extend mining further east within the mine lease.
- Mining under the MOD 2 would continue as a single miner CF operation and would extend operations until approximately 2044, aligning with the expected end of longwall mining at NCO.
- DE explained that CF mining allows for greater operational flexibility, allowing mining to navigate around geological faults.

- The modification application includes predicted subsidence of approximately 100 mm, which was described as minor. Approximately 2 cm of subsidence has been measured to date in the existing CF area, although this may increase slightly and will continue to be monitored.
- Lower subsidence levels occur because coal pillars are left in place, which act as support.
- AG asked for clarification on mining width, and DE advised that 32 m pillars are left between mined areas.
- DE noted the proposal is not expected to significantly change the amount of water entering the mine, as the area has already been depressurised, and it is not expected to significantly affect greenhouse gas emissions.
- The modification is expected to take approximately 12 months to progress through the government approval process.
- The proposal remains within the existing NCO mining lease, with four currently planned to support concrete placement, power supply, gas drainage and services.
- Borehole locations have been selected to minimise surface disturbance and avoid vegetation where possible.
- A fact sheet has been prepared for Modification 2, with plans to distribute it to stakeholders in the coming months.

INCIDENT AND REGULATOR SUBMISSIONS – via a PowerPoint

- Reported incident details presented by BB.
- BB noted that following commencement under Stage 3 Development Consent was a requirement to review all Environmental Management Plans. As a result, a number have been revised and re-submitted to regulator for approval.
- Revised Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP) has been approved. Key updates include the nominated locations of the TEOMs, which are now the compliance monitoring locations under the AQMP:
    - The HVAS monitors have been removed as they are no longer required under the AQMP. The TEOMs monitor PM_{10} and $PM_{2.5}$ in real time and provide a more effective method for measuring mine-generated dust.
    - Depositional dust are no longer required under the AQMP. One depositional dust monitoring location will remain at ND3, located on Bow Hills, as required under the EPL licence.
- GH asked whether the CCC would be able to view the TEOM reports. BB advised that NCO is not required to provide the data directly, however results will be reported in the Annual Review and the CCC environmental monitoring reports.
- RS questioned whether the recent dry period has recorded elevated readings. BS confirmed the TEOMs have not shown an increased trend in dust generated.
- An EPL licence variation was approved at the end of 2025. The variation also includes a reduction in the number of noise monitoring locations and proposed a change in noise monitoring methodology. The EPA approved the reduction in monitoring locations, however changes to the noise monitoring methods have not yet been approved and will remain unchanged until DPHI approve the updated Noise Management Plan.

- JS questioned whether this change would make it harder to get more reliable results now that the monitoring time has been reduced. BS explained that it would not.
- The Annual Water Report was submitted on 31.12.2025. This is required under the Federal EPBC approval for the period ending 31.12.2026 is available online on the NCO website.
- RS asked whether PFAS testing is undertaken at NCO. BB confirmed that NCO is not required to test for PFAS and that all fire suppressants used onsite are PFAS-free.
- JS queried the drilling methods and whether PFAS had historically been used during drilling activities. DE explained that drilling at NCO is generally undertaken using compressed air rather than drilling mud (except for one borehole), and therefore PFAS has not been used.
- RS: any further questions? No

8. GENERAL BUSINESS

- MF asked for an update on the solar farm project. JDK confirmed it is still being assessed by the DPHI.
- DE confirmed that Stage 3 payment has been made to Narrabri Shire Council. NCO are yet to receive an invoice from the Gunnedah Shire Council.
- GH asked for updates on the make good agreements. BB confirmed there have been no further updates and there are still two make good agreements outstanding
- RS asked if Darren Swain, General Manager for Community Engagement at WHC was leaving Whitehaven. JDK confirmed that he will be leaving at the end of April 2026

9. ACTIONS FROM MEETING

- WHC- to distribute the fact sheet SSD-10269 Modification 2 consultation to neighbouring community members

Meeting close at 16:56

NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 3rd June 2026, 4:00pm Narrabri Mine

Narrabri Mine Community Consultative Committee Meeting #73

Date: Wednesday 3rd June 2026

Time: 4:00pm

Location: Narrabri Coal Operations Boardroom

Meeting Commenced at 4:00pm

1. PRESENT AND APOLOGIES

Present: Russell Stewart (RS)
James Stieger (JS)
Mark Foster (MF)
Bruce Danson (BD)
Alan Grumley (AG)
David Ellwood (DE) – Whitehaven Coal
Brent Baker (BB) – Whitehaven Coal
Ben Simpson (BS) – Whitehaven Coal
Neville Paxton (NP) – Whitehaven Coal
Jabin De Keizer (JDK) – Whitehaven Coal
Liam Stower (LS) – Whitehaven Coal

Apologies: Geoff Hunter (GH)
Cr Ryan Whillas – Narrabri Shire Council
Harriet Davies (HD) – Whitehaven Coal
Peter Webb (PW)
Grant Case (GC) – Whitehaven Coal

2. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

No declarations.

No changes from previous.

3. PREVIOUS MINUTES

RS asked if everyone had read previous minutes.

RS asked for previous minutes to be accepted as a true and accurate record.

Moved: MF Seconded: RS

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

BB - Action to expand the Modification 2 Notification Area. During the month of May, a MOD2 Fact Sheet was distributed (via letterbox drop) to an additional 24 properties.

5. OPERATIONS AND SAFETY REPORT

- DE read out the operations and safety report

Production

- Coal production sits at approximately 4.4 million tonnes.
- There is a target of 6.2 million tonnes total production before the next longwall move.
- New milestone achieved – approximately 57,000t mined from a single miner from the Cut and Flit

Safety Performance

- There have been 9 reportable injuries year to date.
- 3 LTI YTD.
- DE explained that a reportable injury includes any injury requiring medical treatment, such as stitches, medical glue, prescribed medication, or similar minor treatment.
- It was noted that this represents a significant decrease from last year.

MF enquired about the recent helicopter incident. DE advised that the event involved a potential high-pressure injection incident. While no actual injury was sustained, a precautionary decision was made by NSW Ambulance to airlift the individual to hospital for further medical assessment. The individual sustained minor bruising as a result of the incident.

6. ENVIRONMENTAL MONTORING REPORT

- Each member of the CCC meeting is provided the environmental monitoring report two weeks in advance
- RS asked if there were any questions about the report? There were no questions about the monitoring report.

7. WHC COMMUNITY UPDATE

- JDK discussed community investment activities for the reporting quarter.
- A total of $100,982 was provided in community partnerships and donations during Q1 (January 2026 – March 2026)

- It was explained that the application for grants and donations requires individuals or community groups to apply to Whitehaven Coal, outlining the purpose of the funding request and the amount of funding sought for the proposed project improvement or purchase.

8. INCIDENT AND REGULATOR SUBMISSIONS – via a PowerPoint

- Reported incident details presented by BB.
- NCOPL submitted the 2025 Annual Review in March 2026. No non-compliances were reported. The review is currently awaiting acceptance by DPHI.
- NCOPL submitted the Annual Return to NSW Environment Protection Authority for the reporting period February 2025 to February 2026. No non-compliances were reported during the reporting period.
- NCOPL submitted the EPBC Annual Compliance Report. One administrative non-compliance was reported.
- Groundwater Q1 monitoring exceedances were discussed. BB provided a detailed overview of the exceedances, including the relevant assessment process and bore-specific information.
- RS: any further questions? No

9. GENERAL BUSINESS

- BB provided an update on the pig trapping program, noting that 20 pigs were captured on the first night of trapping activities.
- BB reinforced Whitehaven's values in relation to gender diversity in the workplace and ensuring language used in meetings acknowledges this diversity and is inclusive of all persons in attendance at meetings.
- JS raised concerns over water quality / appearance in Kurrajong Creek tributary following recent rain event. BB advised there has been an incident reported to relevant agencies in relation to water quality exceedances and that further investigations are being undertaken.
- AG enquired about the proposed solar farm development. JDK advised that DPHI is continuing to assess the proposal and that DPHI is currently drafting conditions of consent and that the proposal will be subsequently referred to the Independent Planning Commission (IPC) for determination. Subject to IPC approval, a final investment decision would then be required before the project proceeds. It was noted that any construction activities remain some time away.
- MF noted having been contacted by the real estate agent regarding the proposed solar farm area and the current land use within the project area.
- BD raised an observation on potential coal dust generation associated with coal falling from the (product coal) skyline and being carried by wind. DE explained that operational trigger levels are in place for wind speed and that a chute is utilised during higher wind conditions to reduce drop height of coal from the skyline. BB also outlined the site's dust management TARP process.
- MF commended NCOPL on the quality and condition of the access road.
- LS introduced himself to the Committee in his role as Whitehaven General Manager - Community Engagement.

- The Committee acknowledged HD for receiving the NSW Women in Mining Technological Innovation Award.

10. ACTIONS FROM MEETING

- A letter of congratulations to be sent by the CCC to HD in recognition of the NSW Women in Mining award.

Meeting close at 16:32

NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 16 September 2026, 4:00pm Narrabri Mine

Narrabri Mine Community Consultative Committee Meeting #74

Date: Wednesday 30 September 2026

Time: 4:00pm

Location: Narrabri Coal Operations Boardroom

Meeting Commenced at 4:00pm

1. PRESENT AND APOLOGIES

Present: Russell Stewart (RS)

James Stieger (JS)

Mark Foster (MF)

Bruce Danson (BD)

Peter Webb (PW)

David Ellwood (DE) – Whitehaven Coal

Ben Simpson (BS) – Whitehaven Coal

Jabin De Keizer (JDK) – Whitehaven Coal

Craig Nicholls (CN) – Whitehaven Coal

Harriet Davies (HD) – Whitehaven Coal

Apologies:

Brent Baker (BB) – Whitehaven Coal

2. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

- No declarations.
- No changes from previous.

3. PREVIOUS MINUTES

- RS asked if everyone had read previous minutes.
- RS asked for previous minutes to be accepted as a true and accurate record.

Moved: JS Seconded: MF

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

- No business

5. OPERATIONS AND SAFETY REPORT

- DE read out the operations and safety report.

Production

- NCO produced just under 2 million tonnes of coal during the last quarter.
- August recorded the second-highest monthly production since the longwall upgrade.
- Approximately 1.6 million tonnes of coal were railed during the quarter.
- Coal production currently sits at approximately 4.4 million tonnes.

Safety Performance

- Seven reportable injuries have been recorded this financial year. DE advised that these injuries were considered relatively minor but resulted in employees being unable to return to work within 96 hours of the injury occurring.
- DE explained that reportable injuries include those requiring medical treatment, such as stitches, medical glue or prescribed medication, and back injuries etc.
- NCO has maintained full staffing levels for the past six months.
- BD enquired about the current workforce size. DE confirmed that NCO workforce remains stable and unchanged.

General

- DE advised the CCC that Grant Case has left the business.
- DE confirmed that he has formally accepted the role of General Manager at NCO, having acted in the position since Grant's departure.
- DE introduced Craig Nicholls (CN) to the CCC as the Underground Operations Manager.

6. ENVIRONMENTAL MONTORING REPORT

- Each member of the CCC meeting is provided the environmental monitoring report two weeks in advance.
- RS asked if there were any questions about the report. There were no questions about the monitoring report.

7. INCIDENT AND REGULATOR SUBMISSIONS – via a PowerPoint

- BS listed the reported incident details and regulatory details.
- NCOPL submitted the Q3 Groundwater Exceedance Report to the DPHI and DCCEEW on 30 September 2026.
- NCOPL submitted the Ambient Flow Exceedance notification to DPHI and DCCEEW on 7 September 2026. To support this, a detailed Ambient Flow Exceedance Report is due 7 October 2026.

- NCOPL conducted a controlled licensed discharge from dam SD9 29 May 2026. NCOPL complied with all procedures to discharge however, there was an elevated pH result of approximately 8.86 once the discharge had commenced. The discharge immediately ceased following this reading. NCOPL submitted a written incident report to the EPA. There is currently no further regulatory action.
- Resources Regulator site inspection completed 2 September 2026, with a focus on rehabilitation performance, progression and implementation.
- Development consent for the Whitehaven Energy Solar Farm has been approved. JS questioned whether MF, the affected leaseholder, had been notified. DE advised that further assessment and a decision by the JV partners are still required, with the project unlikely to proceed in the immediate future. DE agreed that MF should be informed of the approval.
- Independent Environmental Audit: The audit for SSD-10269 and EPBC 2019/8427 included a site inspection on 18–19 August 2026 and a desktop review. Initial feedback identified no new non-compliances. The final report is due by 19 November 2026.
- The revegetation Targeted Assessment Program (TAP) Gap Analysis: This was finalised and provided to the NSW Resources Regulator on 30 June 2026. The subsequent gap analysis identified eight recommendations to strengthen rehabilitation planning, execution, monitoring and adaptive management.
- The extraction plan for longwalls 203 – 206 has been submitted to the DHPI for approval.
- The EPA issued a licence variation on 27 August 2026, requiring NCO to undertake a Seepage Assessment, Monitoring and Reduction Program to investigate potential seepage pathways and interactions between site water storages and the groundwater monitoring network near the Rail Loop Dams.
- JS raised longstanding concerns regarding groundwater salinity and potential impacts on downstream water quality, expressing his belief that these may be associated with seepage from the dams.
- MF questioned whether the dams within the RLP were single or double lined. DE confirmed that they are single lined.
- DE advised that NCO is undertaking a staged assessment and testing process in accordance with regulatory deadlines. The results will inform the required remediation measures, noting the significant volumes of water to be managed.
- DE discussed the proposed upgrades to the Water Treatment Plant which will increase brine salinity while reducing the overall volume of the brine.
- JS expressed a desire to see the water treated, prompting discussion regarding reverse osmosis.
- DE advised that WTP upgrades are planned over the next few years, with further upgrades anticipated in the longer term.
- MF questioned how the resulting brine would be managed. DE advised that the current plan is to reinject the brine into the coal seam at the end of mine life. Earlier reinjection may be possible; however, this is not currently an available option.
- Exploration drilling has commenced on EL9455 and EL9456. NCO confirmed that drilling is only being undertaken where access agreements have been signed and accepted.
- Narrabri Stage 3 Mod 2: Proposes an extension to the cut-and-flit mining area east of the mine. The proposed area was shown to CCC attendees on a map. No subsidence impacts are predicted from this mining method.

- Narrabri Stage 3 Mod 3: Proposes recovering coal from the previously approved but unmined sections, due to faults, of LW203 and LW204. The modification involves a change in mining method to bord and pillar, rather than an expansion of the approved mining area. This method allows mining around geological faults, with approximately 0.6 million tonnes of coal proposed for recovery. DE noted that the modification is expected to involve a less extensive assessment process due to the reduced impacts.
- The Annual Review was accepted by the Regulator and is available on the website.

8. WHC COMMUNITY UPDATE

- JDK provided an update on community investment activities for the reporting quarter.
- A total of $329,482 was provided in community partnerships and donations during Q2 (April 2026 – June 2026).
- Total of $877,584 has been given by WHC as grants, sponsorships, partnership by WHC for FY26.
- The Narrabri community and groups received a lot of the funding for the financial year. JDK discussed the community investment activities for the reporting quarter which included the Northwest Branch of the Stockhorse.
- JDK noted there has been a good interest in the community funding for this quarter, which closed on 30 September.
- RS and CCC expressed appreciation for WHC's ongoing support of the community and proposed the CCC draft a letter of gratitude. Seconded by JS.

9. GENERAL BUSINESS

- JS commented on the rubbish at the entrance of the mine, whilst acknowledging that the waste is not solely from the mine, it needs to be removed. DE and NCO committed to cleaning this area.
- HD noted that the tree guards have been removed.
- NCO completed a successful pig trapping and shooting program in Q2.
- A fox bating program is currently underway.
- DE and the CCC acknowledged HD for receiving the Rising Star Award at the Prospect Awards and being a finalist at the Women in Resources National Award.

10. ACTIONS FROM MEETING

- A letter of thanks to be sent by the CCC to WHC for community funding.
- NCO to clean area around the entrance to the mine.
- NCO to update BD email address.

Meeting close at 16:48

NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 9 December 2026, 4:00pm Baan Baa Hotel